



## DESIGN PROJECT SITE UPDATE

**Last Updated: Tuesday, August 10, 2010**

**Project Name: Lower Sycamore Creek Drainage Improvements Project**

### **Contact Information:**

City Project Engineer: Lisa Arroyo

Phone: (805) 705-7610

E-mail: [LArroyo@SantaBarbaraCA.gov](mailto:LArroyo@SantaBarbaraCA.gov)

### **Project Description:**

Caltrans is currently constructing the Highway 101 Widening Project from Milpas Street to Hot Springs Road, which includes a new bridge that approximately triples the flood carrying capacity of Sycamore Creek under Highway 101. In order to fully utilize the increased capacity, Sycamore Creek must be widened.

City staff has been working on a plan to reduce neighborhood flooding, like that experienced in 1995, by incrementally widening Sycamore Creek just upstream from Highway 101 to approximately 100 feet upstream of the Indio Muerto Street Bridge.

The Project will be completed in three phases, starting at the new Highway 101 Bridge and proceeding upstream.

The first phase channel improvements consist of widening the portion of Sycamore Creek between the new Highway 101 Bridge and approximately 120 feet south of Punta Gorda Street. Planned work also includes planting native vegetation along the top of creek banks and in available space along the creek.

The second phase consists of replacing the Punta Gorda Street Bridge and adjacent channel improvements up to approximately Liberty Street. This bridge restricts the flow of Sycamore Creek during heavy runoff events and will be widened to increase its flood carrying capacity. Planned work includes planting native vegetation in available space along the creek and along the top of creek banks.

The third phase consists of replacing the Indio Muerto Street Bridge and adjacent channel improvements from Liberty Street to approximately 100 feet upstream of the Indio Muerto Street Bridge. Similar to the Punta Gorda Bridge, the Indio Muerto Bridge will be widened to increase its flood carrying capacity, as it currently restricts the flow of Sycamore Creek during heavy runoff events. Planned work includes planting native vegetation along the top of creek banks and in available space along the creek.

**Project Progress:**

The City is working with consultants to provide the necessary studies and environmental documentation to complete the environmental review process. Once the environmental review process has been completed, permits will be obtained and final design documents for Phase 1 and preliminary design documents for Phase 2 will be prepared.

**Current Schedule:**

The environmental process is anticipated to be complete in Fall 2010, and the estimated start of construction is Summer/Fall 2011.



Figure 1. Project Area